

1 November 1955

METALS AND MINERALSFrequency of Meetings: 1 meeting in FY 1955Members
ParticipationValuable?Continue?Future Work?Faults?

SC/IN

Yes - research
gaps and avoid-
ing duplicationYes - but only
2-3 meetings
yearlyReview gaps and
the distribution
of community
effortInadequate
statement of
purpose

FOA

No

Not if results
of SC continue
as in pastTo gather, analyze
and report on in-
formation relative
to the assistance,
logistics, and
requirements of
certain metals and
minerals within the
USSR and satellite
countries. It is up
to the CIA to
determine in what
way the SC can
assist them in ob-
taining and/or
analyzing informa-
tion on the various
problemsSC never really came
to grips with problems
and objectives, which
were set forth almost
unintelligibly. Never
any specific outline
of methods of attack-
ing problems, but only
discussion "of sorts"
among many representa-
tives clustering around
a large table. Could
never get any feel of
what CIA wanted the
SC to do. Had
impression that CIA
members did not them-
selves have methods of
solving their various
problems clear in their
own minds.

CIA

Has been useful
especially for
surveys of state
of researchMore frequent
meetings -
more active
chairmanCommunity esti-
mates of Bloc
minerals and
metals produc-
tion - better
understanding
of methods
behind esti-
matesLack of continuity
in leadership, too
infrequent meetings-
supervisors assign
insufficient priority
to SC work

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SC Numbers Description	Valuable?	Continue?	Future Work?	Faults?
000	Little so far	Continue on active status for time being	Hope to work out in SC a more constructive program, filling gaps in intelligence and improving methodology.	Need renewed efforts of CIA representatives plus some change in other agency representatives to create greater interest in research problems of subcommittee
000	Not great - some programming guidance to CIA	Little further use	Since work of SC was to review gaps in intelligence and propose a research program to be followed to fill them, work of SC has largely been completed. No particular faults insofar as the SC is concerned.	

Subcommittee's Evaluation of Itself (From Annual Report)

In the Ferrous Metals section of the survey CIA is the only agency listed as having the capability and responsibility for undertaking research to fill the priority research deficiencies. The Ferrous Metals Branch of CIA/ORR has scheduled studies designed to decrease these deficiencies as part of its Fiscal 56 program.

In the Non-Ferrous area, CIA/ORR had projects scheduled for each of the gaps listed at the time that the survey was completed; however, ORR's program in regard to these materials underwent major changes subsequent to completion of the survey. In view of these changes and the statement in the survey itself that 'at the end of fiscal year 1955 this subcommittee intends to re-survey the state of research on this field to determine the extent to which the particular Agency programs have met the deficiencies described in this survey', the subcommittee should reassess the status of previously identified deficiencies.

Inasmuch as the responsibilities in this field have been concentrated largely in CIA/ORR, non-CIA representatives have little interest in the substantive research problems within the field delineated by the EIC approved terms of reference for this subcommittee.

It is intended to call an early meeting of subcommittee to determine whether sufficient constructive interest can be developed which would make it possible to utilize the subcommittee as a more efficient coordinating mechanism.

If the subcommittee can be rejuvenated, the following are suggestive of the future functions of the subcommittee:

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prov. guidelines

Subcommittee's Evaluation of Itself (continued):

1. The subcommittee should reappraise its survey of priority research deficiencies to determine the extent to which particular agency programs have met or are expected to meet the deficiencies described in the original survey.
2. The subcommittee should discuss sources and methodologies for filling priority research gaps.
3. The subcommittee should make every effort to achieve, at least in principle, an agreed position on major commodities.
4. The subcommittee should review all major research papers in its field."

Views of the Chairman of the Subcommittee:

Since the survey of priority research deficiencies was made, no agencies represented on the subcommittee other than CIA/ORR are known to have published or distributed to subcommittee members reports directed at reducing the deficiencies listed by the subcommittee. Although discussion of sources and methods underlying estimates in the field of metals and minerals in the Soviet Bloc is, in principle, a desirable function of the subcommittee, implementation of this principle can be fully rewarding only when participants have made comparable investments in research to support their opinions. Wide variations in depth of research have severely limited the scope of the subcommittee discussions.

It is believed, however, that the experience gained since the formation of the subcommittee can be used to advantage in reviewing the surveys of priority research deficiencies, particularly from the standpoint of emphasizing consumers' needs. Some of these may well be found to be within the areas of research for publication contemplated by members other than ORR/CIA.

Secretariat's Evaluation of Subcommittee Activities:

This is another subcommittee whose work is divided into two rather separate fields, i.e., Iron and Steel (with the associated raw and alloying materials) and Non-ferrous Metals and Minerals. Last year the subcommittee completed a preliminary survey of the state of research of Soviet Bloc production of both the above groups of materials and broadly laid out the principal deficiencies in which further research was needed. Most of the finished intelligence published in this field originates in ORR/CIA; although Air Force also follows iron and steel, and a few of the more important non-ferrous materials (particularly copper, lead, and aluminum) to the extent "man-hour considerations permit."

a. In the ferrous metals field interagency agreement on basic estimates has been difficult because of methodological differences. CIA/ORR generally

~~SECRET~~Secretariat's Evaluation of Subcommittee Activities (continued):

accepts (after critical interpretation) Soviet published figures of steel production. Air Force/TAD emphasizes plant by plant analysis - and although it makes a substantial allowance for "other plants" not individually analyzed, the resulting estimates fall short by perhaps 10 per cent of the Soviet announced figures. Since estimates by individual plants are necessarily subject to a considerable error and there are several hundred plants involved, it would appear that this (roughly) 10 per cent difference between Air Force and CIA estimates ought to be resolvable.

b. The ORR research program for FY 1955 in non-ferrous metals and minerals was planned at the same time the EIC subcommittee's survey was in preparation - and accordingly, was largely based on and reflected this survey. Information on the following materials are considered of highest priority: copper, lead, zinc, aluminum, magnesium, titanium, tin, industrial diamonds, black mica, pyrites (sulphur source). A wide range of information is needed for each of these including various aspects of production, trade, consumption, and stockpiling. There is great variation in the state of finished intelligence on these various aspects, particularly from country to country. But the field is so broad that a continuous effort is required to follow important developments in all fields and publish individual studies on selected problems. Since only one or two agencies are undertaking current analysis on most of these materials the role of the subcommittee must be largely to advise and review.

Recommended EIC Action:

1. To request this subcommittee to consider the results of the Community's year of work and prepare new surveys of remaining priority deficiencies in research and collection as of the end of calendar year 1955.
2. To urge the subcommittee to proceed with its assigned task of exploring the possibility of reaching agreement on basic statistics - particularly for USSR iron and steel production.
3. To generally endorse the proposed future activities indicated in the subcommittee's Annual Report, and urge that it get on with the job.

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